



How will Louisiana's new Ten Commandments classroom requirement be funded and enforced?

By SARA CLINE

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Even as a legal challenge is already underway over a new Louisiana law requiring the Ten Commandments to be displayed in classrooms, the details of how the mandate will be implemented and enforced remain murky.

Across the country there have been conservative pushes to incorporate religion into classrooms, from Florida legislation allowing school districts to have volunteer chaplains to counsel students to Oklahoma's top education official ordering public schools to incorporate the Bible into lessons. In Louisiana, the logistics for the new law are still unclear.

Unless a court halts the legislation, schools have just over five months until they will be required to have a poster-sized display of the Ten Commandments in all public school K-12 and state-funded university classrooms.



Louisiana Gov. Jeff Landry signs bill related to his education plan, Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in Lafayette, La.

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Associated Press.

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How will Louisiana's new Ten Commandments classroom requirement be funded and enforced?

Continued from Front

But it's unclear whether the new law has any teeth to enforce the requirement and penalize those who refuse to comply. Supporters of the law say donations will pay for the thousands of posters needed, while critics argue the law is an unfunded mandate that could burden schools. And teachers in some schools have said they likely won't hang the posters, including in the blue city of New Orleans, where residents and officials have a history of resisting conservative policies. to enforcement of Louisiana's near-total abortion ban. Funding the requirement Louisiana has more than 1,300 public schools. Loui-

siana State University has nearly 1,000 classrooms at the main Baton Rouge campus alone and seven other campuses statewide. That means thousands of posters will be needed to satisfy the new law. The Louisiana Department of Education is required by the new law to identify and post on its website resources that can provide the posters free of charge. Lawmakers backing the bill said during debate in May that the posters or funds to print them will likely be donated to schools in this deep Bible Belt state. Nationwide praise for the law from conservative groups and figures including, most recently, former President Donald Trump, could result

in outside financial support for the mandate. Louisiana Family Forum, a Christian conservative organization, has already created a page on its website for donations that "will be used specifically for the purpose of producing and distributing '10 Commandments' displays to educational institutions around Louisiana." But the question of what happens if a school doesn't receive enough donations has lingered for months with little clarity. "So schools have the ability to raise the funds or they (the posters) can be donated. But, what if you can't raise the funds or find a donor?" state Sen. Royce Duplessis, a Democrat who voted against the law, asked during debate

on the legislation last month. "I don't know what happens then," replied state Sen. Adam Bass, a Republican who co-authored the law. The Associated Press reached out to multiple co-authors of the bill, including Bass and the offices of Attorney General Liz Murrill, Louisiana State Superintendent of Education Cade Brumley and the state's Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, but did not receive answers to questions about funding. Lawmakers supporting the bill were adamant during debate that the law is clear in saying donations would be used to obtain the posters. Others suggest the law's language may still allow for the purchase of displays through public funds.

"Louisiana's law does not appear to prohibit the use of public funds to pay for the Ten Commandments displays. Such use of taxpayer money would only exacerbate this egregious constitutional violation," said Rachel Laser, president and CEO at Americans United for Separation of Church and State, who opposes the law. The law says it "shall not require" a public school governing authority to spend its funds to purchase displays. Instead, "to fund the displays free of charge, the school public governing authority shall" either accept donated funds to purchase the displays or accept donated displays. Even with sufficient donations, opponents say the state is still spending money and resources to defend a lawsuit over a requirement that they argue is unconstitutional. But supporters say it is a battle they are willing to fight. Enforcement of the new law Louisiana's 2020 teacher of the year, Chris Dier, said he doesn't intend to post the Ten Commandments in his classroom. "I don't believe in doing something that is unconstitutional and harmful to students," said Dier, who teaches at a New Orleans high school. It's unclear whether failure to comply will result in punishment as the language in the

law does not list any repercussions. While the law specifies that Louisiana's Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopt "rules and regulations" to ensure the "proper implementation" of the mandate, enforcement could fall to parish school boards or local school districts. A similar law passed last year mandates "In God We Trust" be displayed in classrooms. The enforcement and penalties for noncompliance with that law are determined by local education agencies, said Kevin Calbert a spokesperson for the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. The AP emailed 55 members of parish school boards across the state, including rural and urban parishes in Republican-dominated and Democratic-leaning areas, to ask if they support the law and how they plan to enforce it. Two replied, saying they support the mandate. Carlos Luis Zervigon, vice president of the Orleans Parish School Board, thought differently, describing it as "blatantly unconstitutional." "I've heard no talk or interest in considering enforcing this," the former history teacher said. "What would be my instinct, is to do nothing, unless forced to do so." With schools out and many school boards meeting less frequently in the summer, Zervigon said his board hasn't yet talked about the requirement. However, if tasked with figuring out the implementation and enforcement of the mandate, he is likely to take a "wait-and-see attitude" until the court rules. "I could see myself crafting a resolution that could say something to the effect of, 'We will not enforce it until we get legal clarity of whether this is constitutional or not,'" he said. However, if New Orleans takes the lead, Louisiana Gov. Jeff Landry "may exercise retribution," Zervigon said. Landry, a Republican, attempted to punish New Orleans in the past after city officials expressed opposition. □



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Arizona wildfire advances after forcing evacuations near Phoenix

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) —

More than 200 firefighters were battling a wildfire north-east of Phoenix on Saturday that threatened scores of homes and has forced dozens of residents to evacuate. No structures have been damaged as the wildfire traversed nearly 6 square miles (15 square kilometers) on the cusp of the Boulder Heights subdivision, said Matthew Wilcox, spokesman for a multi-agency wildfire response team.

There were 275 people combatting the fire Saturday as temperatures surpassed 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) before midday, with wind gusts expected in the afternoon.

"We still have unseasonably high humidity, hot weather," Wilcox said. "We have no



This photo released by the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management shows smoke rising from the boulder View fire Thursday, June 27, 2024, near Phoenix

Associated Press

wind right now, but gusts were predicted."

Air tankers and helicopters have helped douse flames from the sky above the Boulder View Fire. The cause of the fire is under investigation. It began about 5 miles (8 kilo-

meters) east of Carefree, just outside northern Scottsdale on the edge of the Tonto National Forest.

The Red Cross set up an evacuation center at a high school in Scottsdale, and shelters for horses and other

large animals were established at several locations, including the rodeo grounds at nearby Cave Creek.

Air tankers and helicopters attack Arizona wildfire that has forced evacuations near Phoenix

In central California, increasing temperatures and low relative humidity this weekend could result in worsening wildfire conditions for the Fresno June Lightning Complex. The complex — made up of three large fires in eastern Fresno County as well as several smaller fires — was nearly 17 square miles (44 square kilometers) and 42% contained by Saturday morning. One structure was confirmed destroyed, and evacuation orders remained in place.

To the north, the Apache Fire in Butte County has de-

stroyed 14 structures and damaged two others since Monday. The blaze was one square mile (2.8 square kilometers) and 95% contained by Saturday morning.

Crews were making good progress Saturday on the Darlene 3 fire in central Oregon. It was holding at 6 square miles (15 square kilometers) and was 50 percent contained Saturday morning.

The weather has helped firefighting efforts. Low winds, cooler temperatures and high humidity at night all contributed to the firefighters' progress. It also allowed the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office to lower the evacuation level for Newberry Estates from Level 3 to Level 2. All other evacuation notices have been lifted for the area west of Highway 97. □

California Gov. Gavin Newsom signs budget to close \$46.8B budget deficit

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) —

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Saturday signed California's budget to close an estimated \$46.8 billion deficit through \$16 billion in spending cuts and temporarily raising taxes on some businesses. Lawmakers passed the budget Wednesday following an agreement between Newsom and legislative leaders in which both sides made concessions and also had wins as they were forced, for the second year in a row, to pare back or delay some progressive policies that had been fueled by record-breaking surpluses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is a responsible budget that prepares for the future while investing in foundational programs that benefit millions of Californians every day," Newsom said

in a statement. "Thanks to careful stewardship of the budget over the past few years, we're able to meet this moment while protecting our progress on housing, homelessness, education, health care and other priorities that matter deeply to Californians."

The deficit was about \$32 billion in 2023 before growing even bigger this year, with more deficits projected for the future in the nation's most populous state. Saturday's signing came just two years after Newsom and Democratic lawmakers were boasting about surpluses that totaled more than \$100 billion, the product of hundreds of billions of dollars of federal COVID-19 aid and a progressive tax code that produced a windfall of revenue from the state's wealthiest residents.

But those revenue spikes did not last as inflation slowed the economy, contributing to rising unemployment and a slowdown in the tech industry that has driven much of the state's growth. The Newsom administration then badly miscalculated how much money California would have last year after a seven-month delay in the tax filing deadline.

California has historically been prone to large budget swings, given its reliance on its wealthiest taxpayers. But these deficits have come at a bad time for Newsom, who has been building his national profile ahead of a potential future run for president and has been tapped as a top surrogate for President Joe Biden's campaign. The budget includes an agreement that Newsom and lawmakers will try to



California Governor Gavin Newsom speaks to reporters after a presidential debate between President Joe Biden and Republican presidential candidate former Presidente Donald Trump in Atlanta, June 27, 2024.

Associated Press.

change the state constitution to let California put more money in reserve for future shortfalls.

Republicans, however, said they were left out of negotiations. They criticized the tax increase on businesses,

which applies to companies with at least \$1 million in revenue and will last for three years, bringing in more than \$5 billion extra for the state next year. And they criticized Democrats for some cuts to social safety net programs. □

Family demands accountability for NY police killing of 13-year-old boy. Police said he aimed BB gun

BY JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

On Wednesday, Nyah Mway finished middle school in the central New York city where his family moved about a decade ago as refugees from Myanmar, relatives said.

By Friday night, the 13-year-old was fatally shot by police who'd tackled him to the ground after he allegedly pointed what turned out to be a BB gun at them during a foot chase.

Struggling to comprehend his death, his anguished relatives and outraged members of their immigrant community called Sunday for justice for him and accountability for police.

"We came to the United States, finally, to get the education and to get the good jobs here" and hoping for a peaceful life after decades of strife and violence in Myanmar, said Lay Htoo, who identified himself as one of Nyah's cousins. But instead of celebrating the teen's ascent to high school, his parents were waiting for medical examiners to release his body and wondering what would become of the officers.

"They want them to be in prison forever," the cousin said in a phone interview. As the state attorney general and the Utica Police Department investigate the shooting, Nyah's relatives and other local members of Myanmar's Karen ethnic minority said they planned to meet Sunday afternoon



People light candles on the sidewalk during a vigil for 13-year-old Nyah Mway in Utica, N.Y., Saturday, June 29, 2024.

with Utica Mayor Michael P. Galime. A message seeking comment was sent to the mayor's office.

For now, the officers are on paid administrative leave. The shooting happened Friday night in Utica, an old industrial city where thousands of refugees from various countries have settled in recent decades, creating a measure of revival in a faded Rust Belt hub. The city's population of 65,000 includes more than 4,200 people from Myanmar, according to The Center, a nonprofit group that helps to resettle refugees.

According to police, Nyah and another 13-year-old boy were stopped Friday night because they fit de-

scriptions of suspects in an armed robbery that had happened Thursday in the same area, and because one teen was jaywalking. The police department declined Sunday to release the armed robbery report and its suspect description, citing the ongoing investigation.

The body camera video shows an officer saying he needs to pat them down for any weapons. Then one of the teens — identified as Nyah — runs away, turns and appears to point a black item at them.

The officers believed it was a handgun, police said, but it was later determined to be a BB or pellet gun that closely resembled a Glock

17 Gen 5 handgun with a detachable magazine. Police released an image showing the device did not have an orange band on the barrel that many BB gun-makers have added in recent years to distinguish their products from firearms.

Officer Bryce Patterson caught up with Nyah, tackled and punched him, and as the two wrestled on the ground, Officer Patrick Husnay opened fire, body camera video showed. Utica Police Chief Mark Williams said at a news conference Saturday that the single shot hit the youth in the chest.

A bystander video posted to Facebook also showed an officer tackling the teen and punching him as two other officers arrive, then a gunshot ringing out as the teen was on the ground. Under New York law, the attorney general's office looks into every death at the hands of law enforcement. The police department's own probe will explore whether officers followed policies and training. Williams called the shooting "a tragic and traumatic incident for all involved, and his department said it released information and the body camera video in keeping with "our commitment to transparency."

To Nyah's cousin, Isabella Moo, however, the police narrative seemed like "trying to criminalize him a lot more and trying to protect the police officers."

"The escalation of this should not have happened, and our police officers need to be trained a lot better or a lot differently," she said in a phone interview. "The city needs to be held accountable, and this should not have been done to any child."

Karens are among groups warring with the military rulers of Myanmar, the Southeast Asian country formerly known as Burma. The army ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi in 2021 and suppressed widespread nonviolent protests that sought a return to democratic rule.

Nyah's family fled about two decades ago from Myanmar to Thailand, where he was born in a refugee camp, and then immigrated through a resettlement program to the United States about nine years ago, Htoo said. He said the teen's father works at a convenience store.

Htoo said Nyah was keen on math, soccer and spending time with friends when not caring for his younger siblings. Interested in learning, he sometimes attended Bible study with his friends, though his family are Buddhists, the cousin said.

The cousin said he'd been told that on Friday night, the boy informed his mother he was going to a store to buy something, and that was the last she saw of him. She hasn't slept since, except for 10-minute naps, her tears resuming every time she awakens, he said. □



Police investigated the scene of Friday night's shooting in Utica, N.Y., early Saturday, June 29, 2024. Associated Press.



Bolivian president orchestrated a 'self-coup,' political rival Evo Morales claims

By MEGAN JANETSKY

Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Former Bolivian President Evo Morales on Sunday accused his political ally-turned-rival President Luis Arce of deceiving the Bolivian people by staging a "self-coup" last week to earn political points among the electorate, marking a sharp downturn in an already fraught relationship.

Morales was initially among the country's most powerful voices to say that approximately 200 members of the military who marched on Bolivia's government palace alongside armored vehicles on Wednesday had attempted a "coup d'état." "We are convinced that democracy is the only way to resolve any difference and that institutions and the rule of law must be respected," Morales wrote in a post on the social media platform X on the day of the military action. "We reiterate the call for all those involved in this riot to be arrested and tried."

But on Sunday, Morales joined others who believe Arce himself orchestrated a "self coup" to win the sympathy of Bolivians at a time when his popularity is



Bolivia's President Luis Arce speaks after an interview at the government palace, in La Paz, Bolivia, Friday, June 28, 2024, two days after Army troops stormed the palace in what Arce called a coup attempt.

extremely low. Arce "disrespected the truth, deceived us, lied, not only to the Bolivian people but to the whole world," Morales said in a local broadcast program on Sunday. Morales is throwing his support behind an accusation made by former Gen. Juan José Zúñiga, who allegedly led the coup attempt. Morales said Zúñiga informed colleagues and family of his plan before carrying it out, and that while in custody he told authorities that Arce had "betrayed"

him. "The president told me: 'The situation is very screwed up, very critical. It is necessary to prepare something to raise my popularity'," Zúñiga quoted the Bolivian leader as saying. That theory was quickly adopted by Arce's political enemies, who dubbed it a "self-coup." "At some point the truth will be known," a handcuffed Gen. Juan José Zúñiga told reporters while being transferred to prison Saturday. Morales called for an inde-

pendent investigation into the Wednesday military action in a post on X on Sunday. Shortly after the comments, Government Minister Eduardo del Castillo responded in an interview with state television with a slight aimed at Morales, saying "according to Evo, if there aren't deaths, there is no coup d'état." Morales still wields a great deal of power in Bolivia, especially among coca growers and unions, while Arce has faced simmering dis-

content as the country reels from an economic crisis.

Morales, once Arce's friend, resigned as president in 2019 amid unrest after he ran for an unconstitutional third term and fled into exile, an incident he insists was a coup. He threw his support behind Arce in the country's 2020 election as candidate for his Movement for Socialism, known by its Spanish acronym MAS.

But their relationship soured when the leader returned from exile and Morales later announced he planned to run against Arce to be MAS's candidate in the upcoming 2025 elections. Their fights have grown increasingly bitter as Morales has blocked much of Arce's legislative agenda in Congress.

"We've been politically attacked," Arce told The Associated Press in an interview Friday. But "we haven't attacked" back.

The feud has angered many Bolivians and Morales' Sunday comments were not likely to help.

Morales said in the local radio program "Kausachun Coca" that he felt the incident damaged the image of Bolivia and its military. He also apologized for expressing solidarity with Arce. □

Associated Press.

Ultra-Orthodox protest against order to enlist in Israeli military turns violent in Jerusalem

By OHAD ZWIGENBERG

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Thousands of Jewish ultra-Orthodox men clashed with Israeli police in central Jerusalem on Sunday during a protest against a Supreme Court order for them to begin enlisting for military service.

The landmark decision last week ordering the government to begin drafting ultra-Orthodox men could lead to the collapse of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's governing coalition as Israel wages war in Gaza.

Tens of thousands of men rallied in an ultra-Orthodox neighborhood to protest the order. But after nightfall,

the crowd made its way toward central Jerusalem and turned violent.

Israeli police said protesters threw rocks and attacked the car of an ultra-Orthodox Cabinet minister, pelting it with stones. Water cannons filled with skunk-scented water and police mounted on horses were used to disperse the crowd. But the demonstration was still not under control late Sunday. Military service is compulsory for most Jewish men and women in Israel. But politically powerful ultra-Orthodox parties have won exemptions for their followers to skip military service and instead study in religious seminaries.

The long-standing arrangement has bred resentment among the broader public, a sentiment that has grown stronger during the eight-month war against Hamas. Over 600 soldiers have been killed in fighting, and tens of thousands of reservists have been activated, upending careers, businesses and lives.

Ultra-Orthodox parties and their followers say forcing their men to serve in the army will destroy their generations-old way of life. Earlier Sunday, thousands of men crowded a square and joined in mass prayers. Many held signs criticizing the government, with one saying "not even one male"



Ultra-Orthodox Jewish men clash with police during a rally against army recruitment in Jerusalem on Sunday, June 30, 2024.

Associated Press.

should be drafted. The ultra-Orthodox parties are key members of Netanyahu's governing coalition and could potentially force new elections if they decide to leave the government in protest.

Party leaders have not said whether they will leave the government. Doing so could be risky, with Netanyahu's coalition's popularity lagging since the Oct. 7 Hamas attack that sparked the war. □

Hurricane Beryl strengthens into a Category 4 storm as it nears the southeast Caribbean

By **DÁNICA COTO**

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Hurricane Beryl strengthened into what experts called an “extremely dangerous” Category 4 storm as it approached the southeast Caribbean, which began shutting down Sunday amid urgent pleas from government officials for people to take shelter.

The storm was expected to make landfall in the Windward Islands on Monday morning. Hurricane warnings were in effect for Barbados, St. Lucia, Grenada, Tobago and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

“This is a very dangerous situation,” warned the National Hurricane Center in Miami, which said that Beryl was “forecast to bring life-threatening winds and storm surge.”

Beryl was located about 250 miles (400 kilometers) southeast of Barbados. It had maximum sustained winds of 130 mph (215 kph) and was moving west-northwest at 18 mph (30 kph). It is a compact storm, with hurricane-force winds extending 35 miles (340 kilometers) from its center.

A tropical storm warning was in effect for Martinique. A tropical storm watch was issued for Dominica, Trinidad, Haiti’s entire south-



This National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration satellite image taken at 4:20pm EDT show Hurricane Beryl, lower center right, as it strengthens over the Atlantic Ocean and churn towards the southeast Caribbean on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

ern coast, and from Punta Palenque in the Dominican Republic west to the border with Haiti.

Beryl is expected to pass just south of Barbados early Monday and then head into the Caribbean Sea as a major hurricane on a path toward Jamaica. It is expected to weaken by midweek, but still remain a hurricane as it heads toward Mexico. Historic hurricane Beryl had strengthened into a Category 3 hurricane on Sunday morning, becoming the first major hurricane east of the Lesser Antilles on record for June, according to

Philip Klotzbach, Colorado State University hurricane researcher.

It took Beryl only 42 hours to strengthen from a tropical depression to a major hurricane — a feat accomplished only six other times in Atlantic hurricane history, and with Sept. 1 as the earliest date, according to hurricane expert Sam Lillo. Beryl is now the earliest Category 4 Atlantic hurricane on record, besting Hurricane Dennis, which became a Category 4 storm on July 8, 2005, hurricane specialist and storm surge expert Michael Lowry said.

“Beryl is an extremely dangerous and rare hurricane for this time of year in this area,” he said in a phone interview. “Unusual is an understatement. Beryl is already a historic hurricane and it hasn’t struck yet.” Hurricane Ivan in 2004 was the last strongest hurricane to hit the southeast Caribbean, causing catastrophic damage in Grenada as a Category 3 storm.

“So this is a serious threat, a very serious threat,” Lowry said of Beryl. Reecia Marshall, who lives in Grenada, was working a Sunday shift at a local ho-

tel, preparing guests and urging them to stay away from windows as she stored enough food and water for everyone.

She said she was a child when Hurricane Ivan struck, and that she doesn’t fear Beryl.

“I know it’s part of nature. I’m OK with it,” she said. “We just have to live with it.”

Forecasters warned of a life-threatening storm surge of up to 9 feet (3 meters) in areas where Beryl will make landfall, with up to 6 inches (15 centimeters) of rain for Barbados and nearby islands.

Warm waters were fueling Beryl, with ocean heat content in the deep Atlantic the highest on record for this time of year, according to Brian McNoldy, University of Miami tropical meteorology researcher. Lowry said the waters are now warmer than they would be at the peak of the hurricane season in September.

Beryl marks the farthest east that a hurricane has formed in the tropical Atlantic in June, breaking a record set in 1933, according to Klotzbach.

“Please take this very seriously and prepare yourselves,” said Ralph Gonsalves, the prime minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. “This is a terrible hurricane.” □

Hungary’s Orbán presents a new alliance with Austrian and Czech nationalist parties

By **PHILIPP JENNE AND**

GEIR MOULSON

Associated Press

VIENNA (AP)

— Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán on Sunday presented a new alliance with Austria’s far-right Freedom Party and the main Czech opposition party, which hopes to attract other partners and become the biggest right-wing group in the European Parliament. Orbán traveled to Vienna to present the “Patriots for Europe” alliance of his Fidesz party with the Freedom Party and former Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš’s ANO party, a day before Hungary takes over the European

Union’s rotating presidency for six months.

The European Parliament elections in early June strengthened hard-right parties overall, though their performances varied from country to country, but left unclear to what extent they would manage to work together. Until now, they have been spread across two groups in the EU legislature, plus a large number of unaligned parties. Orbán in recent years has appeared to relish opportunities to block, water down or delay key EU decisions, routinely going against the grain of most

other leaders on issues like the war in Ukraine, relations with Russia and China, and efforts to defend democracy and the rule of law. His public opposition to EU policies and stances has long frustrated other governments in the bloc and pushed him to the margins of the continent’s mainstream.

“What Europeans want is three things: peace, order and development,” Orbán said through an interpreter at Sunday’s event. “And what they are getting from the elite in Brussels today is war, migration and stagnation.” “Our objective is, and we believe that this will happen,

that in a short time, this will be the strongest right-wing group in the European Parliament,” Orbán said. The trio would need to attract lawmakers from at least four more EU countries to successfully form a group in the new parliament. Freedom Party leader Herbert Kickl noted that the new European Parliament will meet for the first time in Strasbourg on July 16. He said that “starting immediately ... all political forces that want to join in our political and positive reform effort are very welcome.” Kickl added that “from what I have heard in recent days

... there will be more of them than some of you probably suspect right now.” He didn’t name any potential partners, and the three party leaders didn’t take questions.

The Freedom Party narrowly won first place in the European Parliament election and hopes to win Austria’s national election on Sept. 29.

A “patriotic manifesto for a European future” signed by the three party leaders assails alleged plans for “a European central state” and pledges “to prioritize sovereignty over federalism, freedom over diktats, and peace.” □

A New Culinary Journey: Windows on Aruba Restaurant Introduces Limited-Time Pop-Up Menu 'Mesa Latina'



ORANJESTAD — Latin America's vibrant, summery essence and flavors can now be found in Aruba at the famous Windows on Aruba restaurant. On Wednesday, May 22, the restaurant is set to launch a limited-time pop-up menu: **Mesa Latina**. This exciting new menu, expertly crafted by renowned Executive Chef Darwin Torres, promises a fusion of traditional Latin influences and contemporary culinary techniques to make your tastebuds say **olé!** Mesa Latina is poised to revolutionize Aruba's dining landscape with a mouthwatering combination of flavors from Latin America and beyond.

Drawing inspiration from his upbringing and extensive travels, Chef Torres has me-

ticulously crafted a menu that celebrates the culinary traditions of Latin America. "Mesa Latina represents the culmination of decades spent exploring the diverse flavors and culinary trends across various Latin countries during my travels and the culture rooted in my heritage," he says proudly. "I hope these dishes delight your palate and bring our guests memorable new dining experiences here in Aruba." "Latin cuisine offers an expansive canvas where we can creatively incorporate ingredients from the entire American region," says Torres. "This menu features a mosaic of flavors from North, Central, and South America, with a Caribbean, Asian, and Middle Eastern twist.

Each dish on our menu reflects a heartfelt homage to the dynamic fusion of cultures that define Latin cuisine."

Mesa Latina by Windows on Aruba is poised to captivate the palates of discerning diners, offering a complete sensory journey. A bright perimeter of floor-to-ceiling windows circles the dining room, so your experience will be illuminated by late afternoon sun rays and spectacular panoramic views of the sun setting over Divi's lush golf greens. This expansive restaurant is perfect for intimate tables or large family gatherings where great conversation, dish sharing, and dining memories are encouraged.

Expect savory classic com-



fort dishes like the deep-fried coxinha, a delightful array of inventive cold and hot starters like grilled octopus and fresh ceviche, hearty meat creations, succulent seafood, and healthy vegan specialties, all perfectly accompanied by zingy and refreshing cocktails. Don't forget to snap some photos—Torres is known for his flavorful cooking, impressive culinary artistry, and beautiful plating techniques.

If you're itching to try out these new dishes for brunch, you're in luck! For a limited time, you can sample some of them starting May 24 on Windows on Aruba's Friday and Saturday Late Night Brunch menu and May 26 during the Sunday Brunch menu.

Whether you seek a memorable new dining experience or an exquisite meal with stunning views, Mesa

Latina promises to deliver an unforgettable culinary adventure. View the full menu here, and be amongst the first to dine at Mesa Latina by making reservations on OpenTable, calling 297-523-5017, or emailing clubhouse@divi-resorts.com.

All-inclusive guests staying at Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort, Divi Dutch Village Beach Resort, Tamarijn All-Inclusive, and Divi Aruba All-Inclusive may dine for dinner at Windows on Aruba for \$55 per person (beverages not included). Some items may be at an additional charge. There is no special pricing for Late-Night or Sunday Brunch. Buen provecho!

Windows on Aruba is located on the top floor of the Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort clubhouse: J.E. Irausquin Blvd 93, Oranjestad, Aruba. □

Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered

in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite

day, visit the Blackstone Beach.

Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island. Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock For-



mation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach. This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. De-

spite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family! □



Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a melting pot of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.



When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.

Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?"

Con bay is a shortened version of "con ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day

Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while "dia" does not directly mean "morning"

in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.

2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atardi", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting of the day.

3. Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much". □

Aruban snacks and where to find them



ORANJESTAD — Want to taste something different for a change? How about some Aruban snacks that you can find all around the island? Hop in your car, and go to these locations to find some of the most popular and tasty snacks that are beloved by our locals.

One of the staples of Aruban cuisine and snacks is the Pastechi. Pastechi is a Caribbean fried pastry that is filled with cheese, meat, chicken, veggies and sometimes even fish! Or perhaps you might want to try a croquette, locally called a "kroket," which is a crusty fried snack with typically a meat and dough mix filling. The Aruban kroket is based on its Dutch counter-

part, the "bitterbal".

These two snacks are typically found in all local snack trucks, which can be found all over the island, including on the side of the main road that stretches from San Nicolas to the Hotel Area. You can also find pastechis and krokets at local bakeries and snack shops, like Bright Bakery in Piedra Plat, Huchada in Santa Cruz or Pastechi House in the city center. These places may also sell other snacks and sandwiches too, perfect for on-the-road lunch break.

While you're at it, why not accompany your snack with a refreshing "batido"? Batidos are fruit shakes, typically made with added milk for some creaminess. However, you can also ask to hold the milk. Batidos are commonly found in snack shops too. You may find some batido shops next the flea markets downtown, or if you're on your way to San Nicolas, at Mauchi Smoothies and Juice Bar in Savaneta (located at the side of the main road).

If you are looking for something a bit more fresh and healthy, why not try some coconuts, or shaved ice from local vendors? These vendors carry their little shop at the back of their truck,

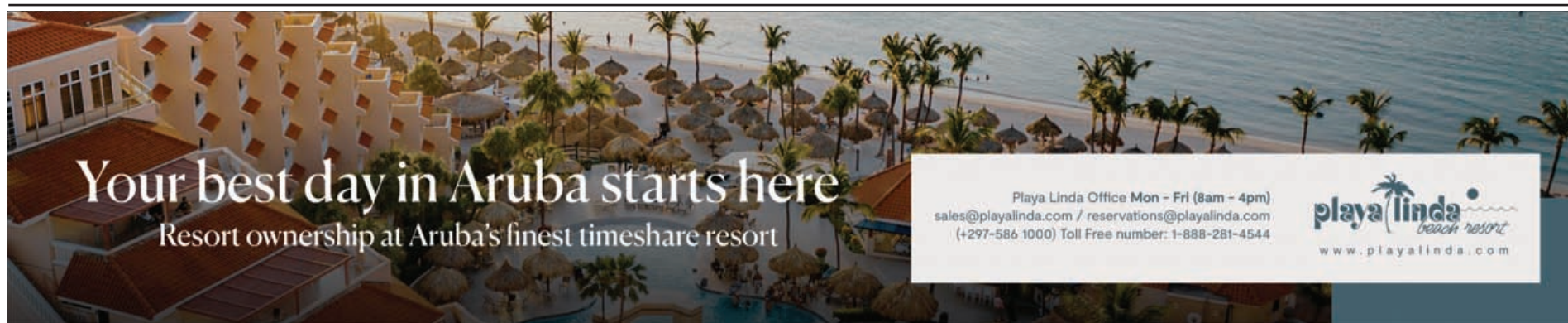


so they are ever-moving around the island. However, there are a few spots where you can almost always find a coconut/shaved ice vendor:

1. Right next to the Red Anchor in San Nicolas, on the way to Baby Beach.
2. Along the main road next to the airport field.
3. At the California Light House.
4. At the Alto Vista Chapel.

These vendors may also sell other delights, like the beloved coconut-based dessert "cocada" or peanuts. All in all, in Aruba, you can always find some place to take a break and have a bite of something local, you maybe just might have to look for them!

Photo credit: wheninaruba.com



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Ever heard of the cah'i orgel?

A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and continues to bring together the old and young.

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it. After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina",

and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barquisimeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he was one of the few to have recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box. made from mahogany wood, it contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz, tumba, mazurka and more.

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingilingi box."



Source: "E Cilinder Magico entre Aruba y Curaçao" by Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and Nidia Rosaria-Wallé.

Aruba Tourism Authority honored a loyal visitor at Costa Linda Beach Resort!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing a Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba. The honoree was respectively honored with a certificate for her years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:
Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honoree was:
Goodwill Ambassador
Ms. Marjorie Hagerly from Peabody

Massachusetts, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Costa Linda Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honoree, presented her with gifts, and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination, as her home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honoree was:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beach.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "Staff at Costa Linda Beach Resort"
- "Aruba's Casinos"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honoree for her continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Marriott Aruba Surf Club!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:
Distinguished Visitor



(10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:
Goodwill Ambassadors
Mr. Dimitrios & Mrs. Lula Hios from Virginia, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Marriott Aruba Surf Club bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for

choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's Beaches.
- Aruba's Casinos.
- Aruba is a family island.
- Aruba's sense of safety.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

Episode 138 - Malmok site



NOORD — Every week we share the most interesting and revealing stories in our articles regarding the Aruba you love, a beautiful destination to explore while finding out more over amazing events that will enlighten and spice up your vacation.

In the proses of discovering the islands landscapes and topography you will reach Malmok area, which offers a perfect and relaxing coast line and beaches. During your drive around you will probably notice and differentiate three basic geological formations: one is a hilly part; second an undulating part and a third part consisting of limestone

which embraces these two zones and forming also the coast line.

The picture shows you how calm and peaceful you can swim in the Malmok area. Now for those who wants to know more about this beautiful and archaic site. There is a Malmok Paleo Lithic cemetery. This Stone Age site is situated at a distance of 200 meters south and 300 meters north of the sea parallel to the former Salina or salt-lake. The site shares its sandy subsoil with the salt-lake. This limestone is part of the Lower terrace formation, formed during a period of a rising sea level. Most commonly forms in clear,



warm, shallow marine waters. It is usually an organic sedimentary rock that forms from the accumulation of shell, coral, algae Etc.

Most of the area in the Malmok site is flat terrain near the Salina. However some of dunes exist in the western part of the site. Rock markings and Turtle shell covered graves were found in the dunes slightly above the plain. This means that the dunes were already present in the period at the burial activities took Malmok place. The graves in their relations ship to the present surface suggest that the surface was essentially the same in prehistory

as it is today.

The Neo Lithic agro ceramic tribes also occupied this abundant and resource full area, which marine supply must have sustain their peaceful existence. Relatives buried their dead's in the ground near their settlement some with special gifts as social status distinctions in their grave. However others were found with seeds to be planted in the after-life while a few with any traceable gifts at all. During rituals corpse where first buried in the ground, after a several months or even years, the bones were excavated, cleaned with meticulous care. These skeletal remains subsequently ob-

tain their permanent resting place in a fairly small urn or vessel. Natives gave great care and devotion to their dead's. So you must imagine that people since thousands of years where very grateful to have enjoyed the pleasure of this paradisiatic island for its clear, calm and generous nature.

Did you say you love Aruba its origins and cultural heritage? Visit Etnia Nativa and enjoy this unforgettable social encounter gets you into a real native home where you can capture your destination in both a memorable and immersive way. You will guide step-by-step for the best Aruba's cultural ambassador and prominent newspapers columnist. Book your appointment mention this article and get a native gift: etnianativa03@gmail.com or WhatsApp + 297 592 2702 □



Article by: Etnia Nativa

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Aruba's underwater wonderland

ORANJESTAD - Exploring the underwater wonders is something you should definitely do during your stay in Aruba. The underwater world has everything to offer that makes a snorkel trip so exceptional; an impressive, colorful sea life with exotic fishes, turtles and beautiful coral reef. The historic shipwrecks, located on the Aruban seabed are also worth a visit. Aruba is known for its white beaches and blue oceans, which means there are many fascinating under water spots, where you can take your snorkeling gear and we selected the top spots for you.



Tres Trapi

Tres Trapi means tree steps in Papiamentu, Papiamentu is together with Dutch the official language spoken on Aruba. The beach is called Tres Trapi because it is accessible by the tree steps carved into the rocks. Tres Trapi is a small rocky beach, located on the north-western side of the island, approximately 5 to 10 minute drive from Palm Beach. From the unique steps you can easily walk over the beach into the clear and turquoise blue ocean. While snorkeling you will encounter all kind of tropical fishes and sea stars. The kind of starfish you will find in the Aruban waters is the red cushion sea star. This is a starfish that is commonly found in the shallow waters of the Caribbean sea and if you are lucky during your snorkeling visit to Tres Trapi, you may come across one of the green sea turtles. Respect the animal, keep your distance and enjoy the view. Also remember; it is a once in a life time experience.



Antilla shipwreck

Antilla is a 400-foot-long long ship, built in 1939 in Hamburg, Germany. Antilla came to Aruba, because it had to find a neutral port. When Germany invaded the Netherlands on May 10, 1940, the crew decided to let

their own ship sink, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Dutch Navy. Antilla lies on its portside in Malmok bay, and the sunken world war two ship is now one of Aruba's most popular snorkeling and dive spots. However, the ship wreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the ship wreck alone is already impressive enough.



Baby Beach

Baby beach; a white beach, with a crystal blue ocean. The beach is located on the southern part of the island. On the way to the famous beach, you will drive through the old capital of Aruba, San Nicolas. The old Aruban culture can be still felt and experienced here, so do not hesitate to get out of your car and walk around for a while. Baby beach is a child friendly beach, since it is shallow and the water has a pleasant temperature. The name therefore fits well with the beach. Baby beach is an excellent beach for snorkeling, especially if you want to go with small children, because the water remains shallow and there are still many underwater wonders to see. In the ocean there is an area marked until where it is recommended to snorkel and on the beach you will find different facilities. It is a perfect beach to spend your day snorkeling and relaxing.



Mangel Halto

Mangel Halto beach is located in Savaneta, on the southern-west part of the island. The beach is different from the other beaches in Aruba; it is beach full of mangroves. You reach the beach by a bridge through the mangroves and then you will have several entrances to the sea. There are diverse spots where you can enjoy a perfect beach day, wooden stairs made to enter the water and a dock to sit on and enjoy the view. Mangel Halto is also worth a visit for the snorkeling experience. Inside the bay, the water is clear and you find many colorful fish. Outside the bay is a bit more challenging for beginners because of the wind and the waves, but the coral is alive and it is just like snorkel heaven. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Fly high
5 New York baseball team
9 On-ramp sign
10 Furious
12 Inert gas
13 Toil away
14 San Francisco baseball team
16 John, in Jersey
17 Quite a few
18 Los Angeles baseball team
21 Pacino and Gore
22 Candy
23 Sir's counter-part
24 Trail mix bit
26 Hockey great Bobby
29 San Diego baseball team
30 Region
31 Yale rooster
32 Detroit baseball team
34 Macaroni shape
37 Return to base

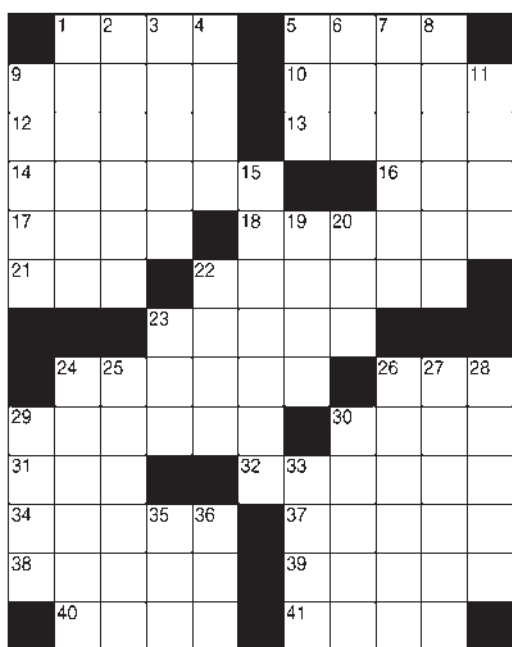
- 38 Esther of TV
39 Unfeeling Cincinnati baseball team
40 Cincinnati baseball team
41 Longings

DOWN

- 1 Continuing story
2 Livers and spleens
3 Extreme pain
4 Monthly bill
5 End for Army URLs
6 Pitching stat
7 Laptop's kin
8 Bar seats
9 Molten rock
11 Amorous archer
15 Wood shop sweep-ings
19 Tidy
20 Ruby or garnet
22 Rational
23 Spoil
24 Lack of color
25 Fit for consumption
26 Mount Hood's state
27 Some summer TV
28 Hoarse
29 Jury member
30 Banded quartz
33 Wee
35 Ancient
36 Director Anderson



Saturday's answer



4-8

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-8 CRYPTOQUOTE

DNW AZQ SA MIQW, JZD S

NTUW T KSMND. — EZYD

VIJTSQ

Saturday's Cryptoquote: HAPPINESS IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF PROBLEMS; IT'S THE ABILITY TO DEAL WITH THEM. — STEVE MARABOLI

Cruise ship Schedule: July 01 - July 30 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
THU	04	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	10	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1
WED	17	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
TUE	30	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

US wants Boeing to plead guilty to fraud over fatal crashes, lawyers say



An airplane flies over a sign on Boeing's newly expanded 737 delivery center, Oct. 19, 2015, at Boeing Field in Seattle.

By **DAVID KOENIG**
Associated Press

The U.S. Justice Department plans to propose that Boeing plead guilty to fraud in connection with two deadly plane crashes involving its 737 Max jetliners, according to two people who heard federal prosecutors detail the offer Sunday.

Boeing will have until the end of the coming week to accept or reject the offer, which includes the giant aerospace company agreeing to an independent monitor who would oversee its compliance with anti-fraud laws, they said.

The Justice Department

told relatives of some of the 346 people who died in the 2018 and 2019 crashes about the plea offer during a video meeting, according to Mark Lindquist, one of the lawyers representing families who are suing Boeing, and another person who heard the call with prosecutors.

During the meeting, family members expressed anger that prosecutors wanted to offer Boeing a chance to plead guilty to a 3-year-old charge instead of pursuing additional charges and a trial. One said the prosecutors were gaslighting the families; another shouted at them for several minutes when given a chance to

speak.

"We are upset. They should just prosecute," said Massachusetts resident Nadia Milleron, whose 24-year-old daughter, Samya Stumo, died in the second of two 737 Max crashes. "They are

saying we can argue to the judge."

Prosecutors told the families that if Boeing rejects the plea offer, the Justice Department would seek a trial in the matter, they said.

Boeing declined to comment.

The meeting came weeks after prosecutors told a federal judge that the American aerospace giant breached a January 2021 deal that had protected Boeing from criminal prosecution in connection with the crashes in Indonesia and in Ethiopia.

A conviction could jeopardize Boeing's status as a federal contractor, according to some legal experts. The company has large contracts with the Pentagon and NASA. □

Associated Press.



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Aloe: Tel. 584 4606

OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
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Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

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Narcotics Anonymous
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Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
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Child Abuse Prevention
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Alec Baldwin's case on track for trial in July as judge denies request to dismiss

By **MORGAN LEE**
Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — A court ruling on Friday put an involuntary manslaughter case against Alec Baldwin on track for trial in early July as a judge denied a request to dismiss the case on complaints that key evidence was damaged by the FBI during forensic testing.

Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer sided with prosecutors in rejecting a motion to dismiss the case.

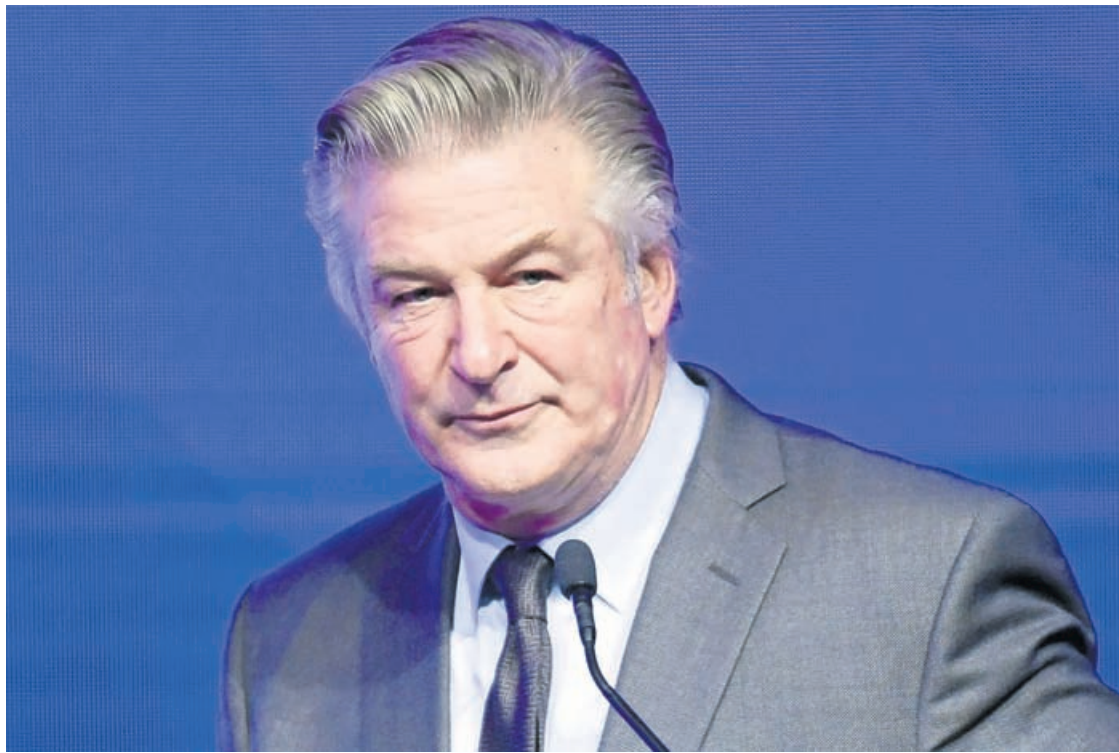
Defense attorneys had argued that the gun in the fatal shooting was heavily damaged during FBI forensic testing before it could be examined for possible modifications or problems that might exonerate the actor-producer.

The ruling removes one of the last hurdles before prosecutors can bring the case to trial with jury selection scheduled for July 9 in Santa Fe.

At trial, attorneys plan to call on witnesses from a court-approved list of more than 60 people. They include film director Joel Souza, who was wounded in the shooting as well as assistant director Dave Halls, who earlier pleaded no contest to negligent use of a deadly weapon, and an array of first responders, investigators, firearms experts and close-range witnesses to the shooting.

During a rehearsal on the set of the Western film "Rust" in 2021, Baldwin pointed a gun at cinematographer Halyna Hutchins when the revolver went off, killing her and injuring director Souza as the bullet became lodged in his shoulder. Baldwin has maintained that he pulled back the gun's hammer but not the trigger and has pleaded not guilty.

The FBI conducted an accidental discharge test on the gun by striking it from several angles with a rawhide mallet, eventually breaking the gun. Prosecutors plan to present evidence at trial that they say shows the firearm "could not have fired



This aerial photo shows the movie set of "Rust," at Bonanza Creek Ranch, Oct. 23, 2021, in Santa Fe, N.M. A court ruling Friday, June 28, 2024.

Associated Press.



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absent a pull of the trigger" and was working properly before the shooting.

Baldwin has twice been charged in Hutchins' death. Prosecutors dismissed an earlier charge, then refiled it after receiving a new analysis of the revolver that Baldwin pointed at Hutchins.

"Rust" armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed is serving an 18 month sentence on a conviction for involuntary manslaughter in the fatal

shooting, as she appeals the jury verdict. It's likely the prosecutors will call her to testify at Baldwin's trial, despite her refusal to answer questions at a pretrial interview and instead invoke her constitutional rights against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment. A judge refused a request to compel her testimony by providing immunity.

Marlowe Sommer said that destruction of internal components of the firearm

"is not highly prejudicial" to a fair trial and that Baldwin's legal team failed to demonstrate bad faith by investigators.

While Baldwin "contends that an unaltered firearm is critical to his case, other evidence concerning the functionality of the firearm on Oct. 21, 2021, weighs against the defendant's assertions," the judge wrote. Sheriff's investigators initially sent the revolver to the FBI for routine testing, but when

an FBI analyst heard Baldwin say in an ABC TV interview that he never pulled the trigger, the agency told local authorities they could conduct an accidental discharge test, though it might damage the gun.

The FBI was told by a team of investigators to go ahead, and tested the revolver by striking it from several angles with a rawhide mallet. One of those strikes fractured the gun's firing and safety mechanisms.

Defense attorneys say that the "outrageous" decision to move forward with testing may have destroyed exculpatory evidence.

Prosecutors said it was "unfortunate" the gun broke, but it wasn't destroyed and the parts are still available. They say Baldwin's attorneys still have the ability to defend their client and question the evidence against him.

In Friday's ruling, the judge said prosecutors will have to fully disclose at trial the destructive nature of the FBI forensic testing on the gun, including what was lost in the process and its relevance in reaching a verdict.

Several hours of testimony about the gun and forensic testing during online hearings in recent days provided a dress rehearsal for the possible trial against Baldwin. Attorneys for Baldwin gave long and probing cross-examinations of the lead detective, an FBI forensic firearm investigator and the prosecution's independent gun expert, Lucien Haag.

Prosecutors plan to present evidence that they say shows the firearm "could not have fired absent a pull of the trigger" and was working properly before the shooting.

Since the 2021 shooting, the filming of "Rust" resumed but moved to Montana under an agreement with Hutchins' husband, Matthew Hutchins, which made him an executive producer. The completed movie has not yet been released for public viewing. □

Bellingham and Kane send England to quarterfinals of Euro 2024 after 2-1 comeback win over Slovakia

By JAMES ROBSON

Associated Press

GELSENKIRCHEN, Germany

(AP) — Jude Bellingham scored a stunning overhead kick with only seconds left to help England avoid one of the most shocking defeats in the history of the European Championship on Sunday. The midfielder's acrobatic strike in the fifth minute of stoppage time leveled the round-of-16 game against Slovakia at 1-1. Harry Kane struck again in the first minute of extra time at the Veltins Arena to secure a 2-1 comeback win and a place in the quarterfinals where England will play Switzerland in Duesseldorf on Saturday.

"I think it was 20 seconds until we were out of the European Championship," Bellingham said. "It's hard to deny that it was one of the most important moments of my career so far."

For so long it looked like being one of the most humbling defeats England had ever suffered — bringing back memories of its elimination at the hands of Iceland at Euro 2016 — as one of the pre-tournament favorites trailed Ivan Schranz's 25th-minute goal for 45th-ranked Slovakia. England needed to improve in the second half. Phil Foden had a goal ruled out by VAR, Kane headed wide from close range and Declan Rice hit the post in the 81st.

With seconds remaining on the clock, Bellingham's moment of inspiration came. Kyle Walker launched a long throw from the right and Marc Guehi leapt to flick the ball on.

It was behind Bellingham in the middle of the box, but in a flash he readjusted his body and executed a perfect overhead kick, sending the ball in to the bottom corner to leave Slovakia goalkeeper Martin Dubravka rooted on his line as he watched it nestle into the back of the net.

"I had a funny feeling the game wasn't dead and I know that sounds ridiculous. We were pushing and probing," England manager Gareth Southgate said. "Ultimately it is the one we have thrown in the box that got



Slovakia players lie on the pitch after a round of sixteen match between England and Slovakia at the Euro 2024 soccer tournament in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, Sunday, June 30, 2024.

Associated Press.

us the goal."

Bellingham's goal was England's first shot on target in the match.

It didn't have to wait long for its second as Kane headed

home to score his seventh goal in his last seven knockout games at major tournaments. It was also a record-extending 65th for his country.

England - ranked fifth in the



England's Kane, second left, scores his side's second goal during a round of sixteen match between England and Slovakia at the Euro 2024 soccer tournament in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, Sunday, July 30.

Associated Press.

world - hasn't won a major tournament since its only triumph at the World Cup in 1966. "We haven't come to get to a quarterfinal, but to get through a night like tonight

was fantastic character and we now play a Swiss team that have been very good," Southgate said. "We have a couple of days to recover and get ready for them." □



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Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy

Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with choco-



late sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

